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ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS

Note verbale dated 13 April 1993 from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to forward herewith the note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, dated 7 April 1993, which draws attention to the necessity at an earliest possible occasion to relocate Ukraine from group (b) to group (c), in the scheme of the apportionment of the costs of the United Nations peace-keeping operations (see annex).

Owing to its previous membership in the United Nations together with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Ukraine is now one of the only two former republics of the USSR still placed in group (b) in the scheme of the apportionment of the costs of the United Nations peace-keeping operations, although all the newly independent States that were admitted to the United Nations after the disintegration of the USSR were rightly included in group (c).

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations would be grateful if the text of the present note and its annex would be circulated as an official document of the resumed forty-seventh session of the General Assembly under agenda item 124.

ANNEX

Note dated 7 April 1993 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine to the Secretary-General

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to paragraphs 1 to 9 of his report to the forty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly on agenda item 124, entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations" (A/47/484), kindly draws attention to some significant facts connected with the allocation of Ukraine into group (b) of the scheme of the apportionment of the costs of the United Nations peace-keeping operations.

Ukraine was placed into group (b) in 1973, as set out in General Assembly resolution 3101 (XXVIII). Since then, a series of negative changes have taken place in its economy, especially recently.

Today, Ukraine is experiencing an extremely complicated period of its history. Real indices of its national income and per capita income reflect a sharp drop in living standards in the country. During 1992, national income has dropped by 14 per cent, industrial output has been reduced by 9.0 per cent, the deficit of the consolidated budget of Ukraine has amounted to 9.1 per cent of its gross national product (GNP), the volume of exports (except for countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) has dropped by 38 per cent, the rate of inflation has mounted up to approximately 2,000 per cent and the investment process has practically stopped.

Grave economic difficulties connected with the formation of Ukraine as an independent State, deep political and economic reforms in the country and expenses in multi-billions to reduce the aftermath of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant accident affect its capacity to pay.

Apart from that, Ukraine suffers serious economic damage caused by its observation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions enforcing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

It should also be noted that an unreal, unreasonably raised exchange rate of roubles against United States dollars has been used to determine the assessment of Ukraine.

However, Ukraine has still been placed into group (b) - economically developed Member States - and not into group (c) - economically less developed Member States - whereas its per capita national income is lower than that of the countries allocated into group (c), including European countries.

Ukraine has always sought to meet its financial obligations to the United Nations under the Charter of the United Nations. The delay in payments by Ukraine for financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces is connected directly with the aforesaid negative processes taking place in the economy of Ukraine.

With regard to the above-mentioned facts, the Government of Ukraine supports the proposals made at the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly concerning reallocation of Member States into groups according to their per capita income averages, and submits its request to the General Assembly at its resumed forty-seventh session and at its forty-eighth session that changes in the existing system of financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations be effected and that an opportunity to move Ukraine from group (b) to group (c) be found.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine believes that, considering the above facts, its request will be regarded positively.